

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03
CA-01 DHA-05 DPW-01 /087 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2691
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ICRC
SUBJECT: VISIT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED
CROSS (ICRC) DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS TO ALGERIA.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ICRC PRESS RELEASE NO. 1307B,
DATED NOVEMBER 3, 1977. QUOTE: ICRC DIRECTOR'S MISSION
IN ALGIERS: GENEVA (ICRC) - IN CONNECTION WITH ITS EFFORTS
TO PROTECT AND ASSIST THE VICTIMS OF THE EVENTS IN THE
WESTERN SAHARA, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED
CROSS (ICRC) INTENDS TO SEND ONE OF ITS DIRECTORS, MR.
JEAN-PIERRE HOCHE, TO ALGIERS. THE AUTHORITIES CON-
CERNED HAD IN PRINCIPLE AGREED TO THE MISSION SEVERAL
WEEKS AGO, AND THE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS WERE DECIDED
UPON IN MID-OCTOBER DURING THE TWENTY-THIRD INTERNATIONAL
RED CROSS CONFERENCE AT BUCHAREST AFTER DISCUSSION WITH
THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT AND THE REP-
RESENTATIVE OF THE "SAHRAOUI RED CRESCENT". THE MAIN
PURPOSE IS TO RESUME ICRC VISITS TO ALL PRISONERS, BOTH
MILITARY AND CIVILIAN. THE MISSION IS QUITE SEPARATE
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FROM THE CURRENT TALKS BETWEEN PARIS AND ALGIERS ON
THE PLIGHT OF THE MISSING FRENCH NATIONALS. THE ICRC,
UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, HAS AGREED, AT THE
REQUEST OF THE ALGERIAN RED CRESCENT, TO POSTPONE MR.
HOCHE'S DEPARTURE FOR ALGIERS, WHICH HAD BEEN PLANNED
FOR FRIDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 1977. END QUOTE.

2. IN TELECON THIS MORNING, HOCHE TOLD MISOFF THAT HE WAS "FURIOUS" THAT WORD OF HIS TRIP HAD BEEN LEAKED, SINCE THIS HAD PLACED THE ICRC IN AN AWKWARD POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE FRENCH IN THEIR CURRENT DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE POLISARIO AND ALGERIANS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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